

# JINfo

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## Integrated Justice in Washington State

### July 2003

#### **New program director for Justice Information Network**

Brian LeDuc likes to describe his new appointment as program director for the Justice Information Network, as "putting a human face on a concept." It's quite a concept. Building the Justice Information Network (JIN) program means nothing less than integrating the complex and diverse business objectives of five state agencies and Washington's cities and counties -- all key players in the field of criminal justice in Washington.

"Building consensus will be essential," says LeDuc. "This work is all about aligning goals and targets, merging information and bringing people together." So far, the indicators are excellent. "People can see how this project relates to public safety and are committed to doing what it takes to make the project a success."

LeDuc's new position is the result of a strategic partnership between Washington State Patrol, Washington Courts and the departments of Corrections, Licensing and Information Services. He will work through the newly created [Washington Integrated Justice Information Board](#), which is legislated to "coordinate and facilitate the sharing and integrated delivery of complete, accurate and timely justice information." LeDuc currently reports to the Criminal Justice Information Act (CJIA) Executive

Committee, the body that the new Board will replace, although the membership is essentially the same.

LeDuc is delighted with the opportunity to lead the build out of the JIN and encouraged by the enthusiastic support of CJIA committee chair, Stuart McKee. "It's a green light to innovate. I see the challenge ahead as bringing new ideas online that will reach project targets in a tight budget environment."

LeDuc is uniquely qualified for the job. He is an experienced attorney and project manager with domestic and international experience in various e-government initiatives. He has served as counsel to the Electronic Public Access Program of the Federal Courts and been deeply involved in issues relating to public access to court records and electronic filing of court documents. LeDuc has also been in private practice; served as the Rule of Law Liaison to the Republic of Macedonia on behalf of the American Bar Association's Central and East European Law Initiative and was the associate chief deputy clerk of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit.

All of these initiatives, says LeDuc, hinge on the ability to share information across organizations and jurisdictions. He can see tremendous and tangible benefits to be gained from building out the Justice Information Network. "We

can increase public safety and build more effective government by streamlining operations, accelerating the movement of vital information through jurisdictions and leveraging the resources of a diverse and engaged partnership."



Each issue of the JIN Mill will attempt to describe a practice that demonstrates the need for justice integration and some of the redundancies that accompany the current process. This month's example is from King County:

1. Officer stops individual, cites and takes to jail. Officer writes citation and **enters the information** into a police contact/incident reporting system.
2. Booking officer **enters same information** (name, DOB, address, charges, etc.) during booking process.
3. Court **enters the same information** into court system so that they can schedule the person for a court date.
4. Prosecuting attorney **enters the same information** into their record system.
5. After adjudication, court updates their records...no one else does.

## Law Establishes Governance Body for Integrated Justice

On May 7, Governor Locke signed Substitute House Bill 1605, providing for the development and maintenance of a statewide justice information network, designed to:

- Enable sharing and integrated delivery of justice information in the state;
- Maximize standardization of data and communications technology among law enforcement agencies, jails, prosecuting attorneys, the courts, corrections, and licensing;
- Reduce redundant data collection and input efforts;
- Reduce paper-based information exchanges;
- Provide complete, accurate, and timely information to criminal justice agencies and courts in a single computer session; and
- Maintain security and privacy rights

The new law, which becomes effective on July 27, 2003, creates a governing board with the power, authority, and responsibility to develop, maintain, and enhance the network. The Board, which is comprised of top officials from all aspects of the justice community, is charged with filing a report by September 1, 2004 detailing specific goals for improving criminal justice integration, appropriations needed for achieving those goals, and a timeline for implementation

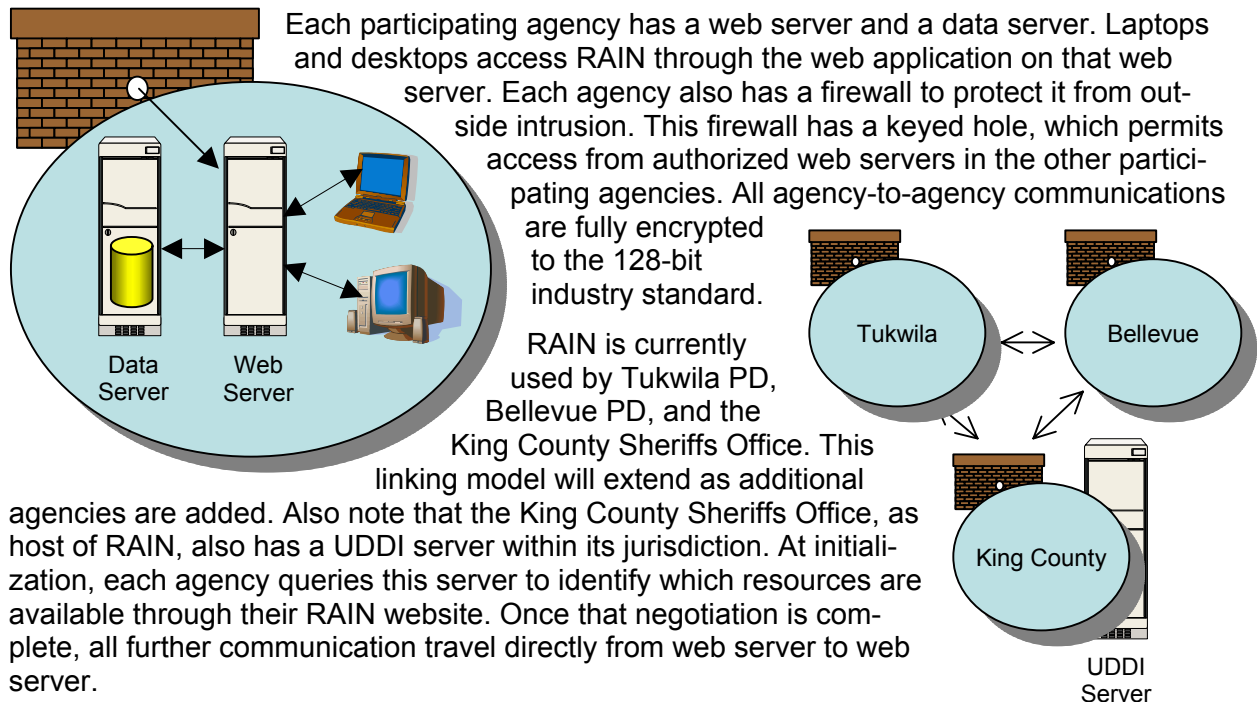
# RAIN IN KING COUNTY

The Regional Automated Information Network (RAIN) pilot is a data sharing initiative of the King County Police Chiefs Association, hosted by the King County Sheriffs Office. Current participating agencies are the King County Sheriffs Office (Sheriff Dave Reichert), Tukwila Police Department (Chief Keith Haines), and Bellevue Police Department (Chief Jim Montgomery). RAIN enables cross-jurisdictional data sharing among law enforcement agencies in King County.

## Underlying technologies

RAIN has been developed using cutting edge technology products. It operates on a .NET<sup>®</sup> technology foundation from Microsoft Corporation with an integration middleware product, Justice Information Server<sup>®</sup>, developed by Briyante Software Corporation. Strategic consulting services were provided by Equarius, and a key server donation was made by Dell Computer Corporation.

## Architectural structure



## What functionality does RAIN provide?

The RAIN web interface follows a simple tabbed paradigm. Users enter their search criteria on the first tab and the results are displayed on subsequent tabs. RAIN can search for both people and vehicles.

Search Parameters   Person Description   Incident Details   Vehicles   Narrative

To refine a search at any time, the user need only return to the search tab and change the search criteria. Once modified, the search can then be rerun. RAIN enables authorized users to search for event information on specific people and vehicles. They can also choose which participating agencies to include in their search. Access to RAIN is governed through an MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) signed by each participating agency.